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WESTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA  
LAFAYETTE, LOUISIANA

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA  
LAFAYETTE DIVISION

To: All Counsel of Record

Issued By: Judge Rebecca F. Doherty

Re: In re: ACTOS® (Pioglitazone Products Liability Litigation)  
MDL No. 11-md-2299, All Cases

Date: April 13, 2012

**MINUTE ENTRY:**  
**COMMUNICATING WITH THE COURT**

This Court has now appointed special masters, the members of the Plaintiffs' Steering Committee ("PSC"), and notes defendants' selected lead counsel. In light of these appointments, the Court issues the following *guidance* for communications with the Court. The communications sequence described below is designed to streamline and coordinate communications for a more efficient and rapid response.

*All plaintiffs' counsel* who are not on the PSC are requested, first, to contact their appointed member of the PSC to discuss any question, comment, concern, recommendation, or request they might have for the Court. Members of the PSC will be able to answer many questions, as well as to coordinate comments or concerns with those that might be received from other counsel in the same time frame and/or on the same issue.

*PSC members* who receive any question, comment, concern, recommendation, or request that cannot be resolved without further input are requested to discuss same with the plaintiffs' co-lead counsel, Mr. Arsenault or Mr. Pennock.

Should *plaintiffs' lead counsel* require further input in order to resolve or address any issue brought to their attention, they should contact Deputy Special Master DeJean if the matter involves a question of PSC billing, approval of common-benefit fees or expenditures, or the assignment of duties by the PSC. For other issues (or in the event Mr. DeJean is unavailable), lead counsel should contact either Special Master Russo or Deputy Special Master Rodriguez, who will work with counsel to resolve the issue or to help facilitate contact with the Court as quickly as circumstances require.

*The defendants* are requested to communicate either through their lead counsel, Ms. Gourley, or through whomever Ms. Gourley appoints to communicate with the Court on a given issue, by first contacting either Special Master Russo or Deputy Special Master Rodriguez, who will work with counsel to resolve the issue or to help facilitate contact with the Court as quickly as circumstances require.

*The special masters* will have open and direct access to Magistrate Judge Hanna and Judge Doherty, as may be appropriate, for any issue that should be brought to the attention of the Court.

In the event of any emergency, or any breakdown in the communications sequence described above, counsel should, of course, feel free to contact the special masters directly or, failing any ability to obtain a prompt response, to contact the Court directly through Christine Guidry (337.593.5008), the case manager assigned to these proceedings.

Counsel previously were advised to use the email address hanna\_md orders@lawd.uscourts.gov as a first option for communicating with the Court. This minute entry is designed to vacate and supersede those earlier instructions. However, the noted email address should still be used for emergency filings where CTOs have not yet been fully processed by the Clerk of Court.